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the observations of Professor SWIFT (L. O. Eclipse Report, 1889, page 203). E. S. H.

ZENOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENTS.

The Motions and Changes of the Markings on Jupiter, during 1886-7.

Under this title Mr. A. STANLEY WILLIAMS, F. R. A. S., has printed a handsome octavo volume, of 118 pages and nine carefully executed plates, which gives the results of his own observations during 1886-7 with a $6\frac{1}{2}$ inch reflecting telescope (power 170). The work consists of seven sections, as follows: Section I treats of the instrument and the methods of observation (usually transits over the central meridian, 312 of which were observed); II treats of the construction of the chart of the markings on *Jupiter* (which gives the relative positions of all the spots from all the observations, reduced to the positions which they would have occupied had every observation been made April 21, 1887, the date of opposition); III speaks of the general arrangement of the belts, and gives an excellent system of nomenclature for the various separate features; IV, by far the longest section, presents the observations of the different spots in a most convenient form; V gives a summary of rotation periods in different Jovian latitudes; VI relates to the different altitudes (in *Jupiter's* atmosphere) of the different features; while VII treats of the repellant influence apparently exercised by the Red Spot on markings in its neighborhood.

This work deserves an extended notice, which cannot be given here; but it should not be allowed to pass without remark, since it affords an admirable example of just the kind of work which amateur observers can prosecute with great success. Its author (a professional man, constantly occupied) has chosen a definite problem, suitable to his instrumental equipment, and by dint of clear conceptions of the nature of the problem to be solved and of persevering observations in his leisure moments, has produced a work of lasting value. It appears that this volume is to be followed by others on the same subject from the same hand. It can be obtained from MITCHELL & HUGHES, publishers, 140 Wardour street, London. The price is not stated. E. S. H.

ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITORS TO THE OBSERVATORY.

In order to accommodate visitors to the Observatory on the public evenings, a continuous bench, long enough to seat one hundred